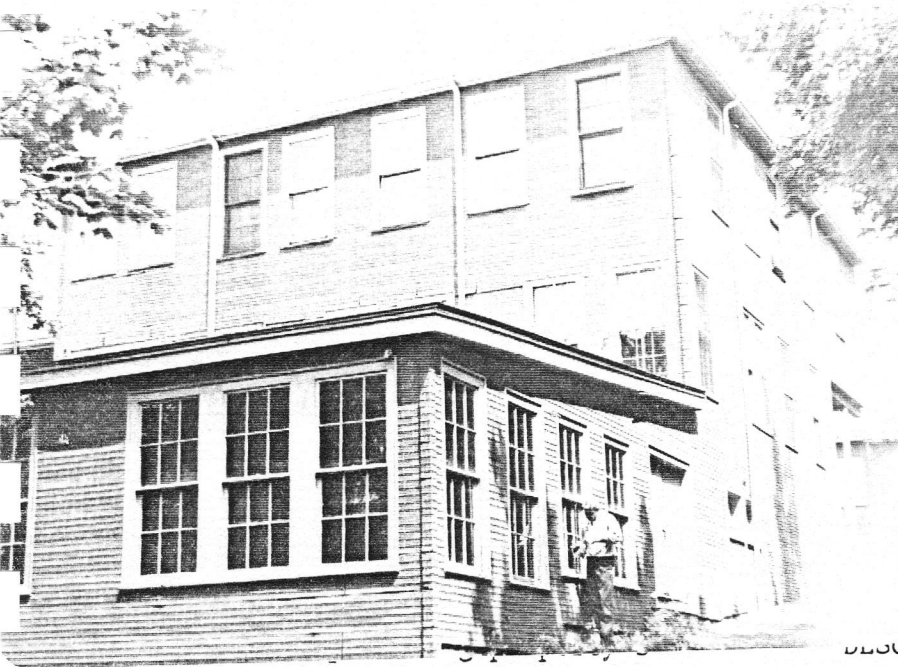


MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Lexington

Address 31 Fletcher Ave.

Historic Name Lexington Gear Works  
Jefferson Union Co.

Original factory

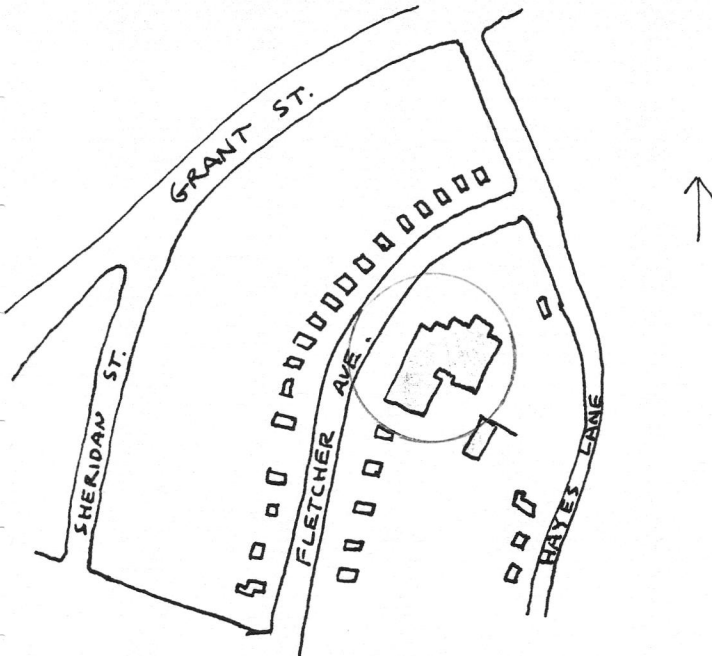
Present factory, pipe fittings

Ownership: ☐ Private individual  
Private organization  
Jefferson Union Co.

Public

Original owner

location in relation to nearest  
cross streets and other buildings  
or geographical features.  
Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1890

Source boiler

Style 1900 industrial

Architect

Exterior wall fabric red brick-effect asphalt  
shingles

Outbuildings storehouse

Major alterations (with dates) several;  
major expansion, 1908/18; storehouse built,  
1918/27; garage replaced, 1963.

Moved Date

Approx. acreage 1.00

Setting near town center; in workers'

cottages district (Fletcher Ave)

Recorded by Henry V. Taves

Organization Lexington Historical Comm.

Date 6/23/80; 7/11/80

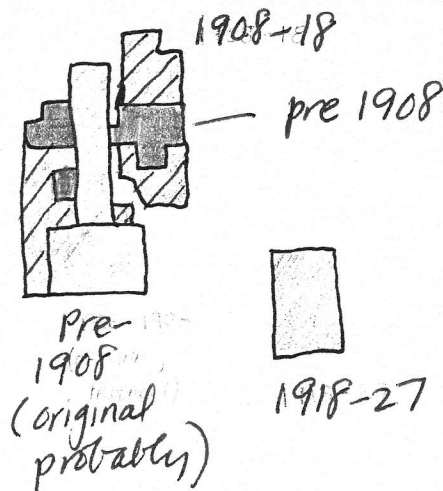
ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

Typical functional factory design, late 19th century. Oldest central part had gable roof (shingled), white clapboards; office section (south) had flat composition roof. Many volumes/sections showing several additions made over time, primarily to add storage & shipping facilities.

Fine interior w/belts & shafting, old machinery & accessories.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

Building was first along Fletcher Ave, then cottages were built along it. Unusual to find a factory so close to the town center. (Today, surrounded by houses.) Boiler dated 1891, perhaps building date. G. Meadows, employee, reports soap factory or gear works here before 1901, when J.U. began. Same products made now as then.



#### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lex. Hist. Comm. file  
Sanborn maps, 1908-1918-1927-1935  
J.U. Co. records